PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ST. LOUIS MO
400 PM CDT SAT JUNE 24 2006

...UPDATED...

...PRELIMINARY DAMAGE SURVEY FOR AUDRAIN-PIKE COUNTY MISSOURI...CAUSED BY STORMS ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 22, 2006...

Personnel from the National Weather Service office in St. Louis surveyed damage over Audrain and Pike counties in Missouri, caused by the severe storms on June 22nd, 2006. The damage was produced by a combination of 5 weak tornadoes and clusters of damaging downburst winds and large hail.

At approximately 1255 pm CDT, damaging downburst winds caused large limb and tree damage 1 to 2.5 miles north of the intersection of Highways 22 and E, along Highway E in central Audrain County. Between 1.5 and 2.5 miles north of this intersection hail the size of pennies and nickels severely damaged a corn field. One person witnessed damaging winds initially blowing from the west...then blew from the east. He stated that hail nearly covered the ground. The period of damaging winds lasted approximately 5 minutes in this area.

At approximately 105 pm CDT the first of three tornado touchdowns occurred 4.5 miles north northwest of Mexico, Missouri near and west of Highway 15. Large trees were either uprooted or snapped and showed a convergent damage pattern. The total length of the brief tornado track was approximately 200 yards long and 40 yards wide. The tornado damage intensity was rated F0. Fallen tree limbs caused minor damage to a roof and side of a home near this track. An old machine shed on the property sustained minor roof damage. South of the tornado track damaging downburst winds and hail totally destroyed a large corn field. The stalks within the large corn field were severely bent or on the ground and also showed a slight convergent pattern lying to the northeast or north-northeast.

Also along Highway 15, for approximately 3.5 to 4 miles, numerous trees and large tree limbs were uprooted or blown down by the damaging downburst winds over a large area of a residence property. Again hail the size of nickels to quarters was observed by another witness at this location. The large trees and limbs were lying to the southeast suggesting a divergent damage pattern from this location northward for half a mile. Another home along Highway 15 sustained minor roof damage due to fallen tree limbs. The wind speeds were estimated between 80 to 90 mph over this area. The second tornado touchdown 3.75 miles north northwest of Mexico, Missouri at approximately 107 pm CDT. A large machine shed was totally destroyed on a farmstead with debris from the machine shed displaced 300 yards to the east. Some of the shredded metal debris was wrapped around nearby large tree branches. This damage track extended east-northeast and crossed Sunrise Road and damaged a 50 yard swath of trees. A home near the damage track sustained roof damage. The damage length of this tornado was approximately 1 mile long and 40 to 50 yards wide. The damage intensity was rated the lower end of F1.

A third and brief tornado touchdown occurred 4.75 miles north of Mexico and crossed Sunrise Road at approximately 110 pm CDT. One grain bin from a farmstead was destroyed while several large tree tops were ripped east of Sunrise Road. The tornado damage path was approximately a quarter of a mile long and 40 to 50 yards wide. Damage intensity was rated F0.

Between the two tornado tracks several large trees and tree limbs were down lying east-northeast along Sunrise Road. South of the second tornado track several trees and tree limbs were down and lying to the east-southeast. The width of the overall damage area was approximately 2 miles.

Further east along County Road 341 and Highway J, for approximately 3.25 to 5.5 miles, tree and corn damage was found within the two and a quarter mile wide area. Many of the trees and large limbs were lying to the east-northeast while across the southern part of the damage area tree and large limbs were lying to the east-southeast suggestive of a divergent damage pattern. The corn damage was not as extensive as compared to the corn damage along Highway 15.

Some tree and large tree limb damage continued south of Highway J through the Laddonia - Bassinger Corner area. Wind speeds were estimated between 60 to 70 mph over this area.

At approximately 125 to 130 pm CDT, a fourth tornado touchdown occurred in an open field approximately 1.5 miles east northeast of Laddonia through the town of Farber, Missouri. Personnel from the volunteer fire departments at Laddonia and Farber observed the funnel picking up debris southwest of Farber and over the community of Farber. A few large trees and several large tree limbs were down in the Farber area. One tree severely damaged a roof in Farber. The length of this tornado track was 3.5 miles and 50 yards wide and was rated F0 intensity.

As the severe storm moved into the eastern part of Audrain county at 145 pm CDT, scattered large tree limbs were blown down mainly 2 to 5 miles south of Vandalia. More concentrated tree and large limb damage was noted 1.5 miles west of Estes. Additional large tree limb damage extended along County Roads 410 and 411 between Estes and Ashley.

Witnesses observed a weak and very brief tornado touchdown in the town of Ashley, Missouri at approximately 215 pm CDT. A few trees and large limbs were down. The length of the damage path was a quarter of a mile long and 50 yards wide. The Ashley community center only experienced minor shingle damage. An old machine shed west of town was also damaged.